

## What The Negro Is Doing For Himself In The South

To The Advertiser:

At the recent annual meeting of the National Negro Business League, of which Dr. B. Booker T. Washington is president, there were related many remarkable illustrations of what the negro is doing for himself in the South. This week I cite one of them which is perfectly reliable.

J. D. McDuffy, of Ocala, Fla., started a farm eleven years ago on three acres of ground which he rented. He had nothing to start with but a determination to make farming pay. He raised several crops a year on three acres and sold his products in local markets. Finding that he could not sell to advantage all his produce, he increased his farm to seven acres and began shipping to Northern markets. His principal crop was watermelons and cantaloupes. His shipments became so large he was called—"McDuffy, the melon man." He was afterward called "The Watermelon King."

McDuffy increased his farm to one hundred acres which he owns and afterwards secured six-hundred and forty acres which he now cultivates. Last year McDuffy shipped ninety car loads of melons to one merchant in Baltimore, besides car loads to New York, Philadelphia and Boston and Chicago. He also cultivated last year thirty acres of cantaloupes from which he made the first shipment to Northern markets, and received the premium of \$1,200 for the first carload. He has been getting this premium five consecutive years for the first shipment from the South.

McDuffy has also started a stock farm in connection with his melon venture and he raises and sells hogs, cattle, horses and mules. He has a cold storage plant on his place in which he keeps meat and other perishables. His business with the railroad has become so great the Atlantic Coast Line has run a spur track to his farm which is about three miles from the main track.

McDuffy employs about forty workmen the year around increased to more than one hundred during the busy season. During that short season his pay roll runs to \$500 per week. He finds a ready home market for all his meat and stock and places his hams in competition with the Western meats.

McDuffy says he finds no prejudice against any of his products in the markets. He simply makes the best melons, the best cantaloupes and the best hams and he gets the best prices.

This is what a negro is doing for himself.

At the recent negro fair held in Raleigh, N. C., there were many exhibits by farmers which attracted much attention. Among them was the exhibit of Fletcher Lockhart, a prosperous truck farmer of Wake county. Lockhart was born a slave in 1854. After freedom came to him he worked on a cotton farm until 1873. With a capital of seventy-five cents which he

borrowed he struck out to make a living for himself and his young wife. He and his helpmate cleared \$65 the first year. He worked for wages.

The second year Lockhart leased one hundred acres for five years. When his lease expired he bought the land for \$22 per acre. He paid off the mortgage and now owns the place, valued at \$15,000. He has educated four children, owns a model truck farm, and was awarded the first prize of \$100 for the best exhibit in his line.

Two years ago a young woman, Nellie L. Butler, graduated from Phelps Hall Bible Training school of which the writer is Dean. This young woman was sent out by Dr. Washington to do mission work at Luna Landing, Arkansas. A few days ago I received a letter from her stating the following results of her work. She said: "In January 1908, I was sent here by the Tuskegee Institute to take charge of this work in response to an offer of a lady in Berlin, Germany, to help our people. I was sent to teach in the class room, give instructions in sewing and cooking, hold mother's meetings, teach in the Sunday schools and work among my people for their moral and mental uplift. I found nothing in the way of conveniences for the work except a small church on a plantation. This church, with walls and floor bespattered with tobacco juice, was school room, and sewing room. When the weather would permit it, I taught the industrial classes out doors on the grass.

"We called a meeting of the people and asked them to raise money to build a school house which cost \$1,000 and we have \$450 to pay on the salary of a good preacher."

Of course the white people help them in that community, the school board donating \$100 and the good lady in Germany helps them because they were helping themselves. I find it to be true in every instance; where the negro is helping himself he finds white friends to help him.

Dr. Washington's appeal to the white people of the South to help the negro make a demonstration of what he has accomplished since freedom at an exposition to be held in the South in 1910, is based upon the fact that the good white people of this section stand ready with money and words of encouragement to aid the negro in his efforts to make the best of himself. And this, I confidently believe, the South will do.

The law of encouragement is the fundamental law of self-development—self-help.

A. F. Owens

Tuskegee Institute, Nov. 30th, 1909.

## The Negro: in a State of Transition

Shelton 2-19-10  
HE DESERVES INTELLIGENT SYMPATHY

To the Editor of The Sun—Sir: I have read with interest the letters published in The Sun of January 14 and of January 19 concerning the ambitions and hopes of the Negro in this country. In that book to which one of your correspondents refers,

"The Story of the Negro," by Booker T. Washington, it is pointed out that in this country, from the time that Columbus discovered the western world until Peary discovered the north pole the black man has been always and everywhere the white man's faithful companion and helper. During most of the time he has been that white man's dog; he has lived, worked and suffered with him and through it all he has received the dog's share of the good and the ill that befell him.

Now at length, after this long period of subordination, we are asking this dog to be a man; we are insisting with some impetuosity that the black man show independence, self-respect and racial pride. Isn't this, to say the least, a little sudden?

For a change under all the circumstances, but this new people, suddenly ushered into the responsibilities and perplexities of a self-respecting civilization of men, should not always be asked to bear itself wisely and intelligently.

The position of the Negro in this country is a delicate matter. To say that he has been a dog is to make the Negro pay a heavy price in the Southern States, and to say that he has been a man is to make the white people pay a heavy price in the Northern States.

This is a delicate matter, and it has been further intensified by the fact that the Negro has been asked to pay a heavy price in the Southern States, and to say that he has been a man is to make the white people pay a heavy price in the Northern States.

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stand the white man's point of view while still retaining his own; then whatever else the Negro may be, I take on my hat to him. He will have reached a height of moral heroism, no white man can hope to attain.

ROBERT F. PARK

## GIVES \$3,000 TO COLORED Y.M.C.A.

Major Rosencranz Enables the Organization to Purchase Permanent Home

AT CHERRY AND 7TH STREETS

Will Lend Other \$4,500 Needed to Secure Property and Equip Building

Donor Arranges for Repayment in Small Monthly Amounts Without Interest

Abd. A. C. Rosencranz added to his many public beneficencies yesterday when he purchased the property at the corner of Cherry and Seventh streets for the Y. M. C. A. to be used for the work of the colored branch. The purchase price is \$6,000 and of this amount Maj. Rosencranz gives \$3,000 on condition that the colored Y. M. C. A. raise an equal amount. It is estimated that an additional \$1,500 will be required to place the building in serviceable condition, this making a total investment of \$7,500.

In addition to his donation of \$3,000 toward this building fund Major Rosencranz will advance the \$4,500 required in order to make possible the immediate possession of the property for the colored work of the association. This \$4,500 is a loan without interest and the conditions are the payment of \$1,500 of the amount by Feb. 1, 1910 and the balance of \$3,000 at the rate of \$50 a month beginning with March 1, 1910, thus covering a period of five years and proving no more burdensome than regular rental. Needless to say, the colored branch of the Y. M. C. A. gladly and gratefully accepted the terms of Major Rosencranz's gift.

The colored branch was organized in January 1908, and has since occupied rented quarters on the second floor at 427 Walnut street, during which time it has done a creditable work, winning the favorable commendation of the central branch board of directors. The work included a reading room, debating club, checker club, Bible class and Sunday afternoon gospel meeting.

About one hundred colored young men were enrolled in membership and the department has maintained itself

unimpaired without the aid of the central organization. Secretary Mogge has been in close supervision of the colored work and at a conference held with its committee of a dozen men at on July 13 suggested the need of securing larger quarters and introducing baths, gymnasium, educational and social facilities not possible in the single room then occupied. A subsequent conference was held early last month when it was decided to rent, if possible the property which Major Rosencranz has now placed at their disposal. This action was ratified by the central board of directors September 20 and a committee consisting of Major Rosencranz, S. G. Rickwood, G. S. Vickory and E. L. Mogge was appointed to act in an advisory capacity to the colored committee of management.

Major Rosencranz had carefully observed the work of the colored branch and was so favorably impressed that, with his characteristic public spirit, he decided to buy the building and arrange for its occupancy by the colored Y. M. C. A. The property consists of a brick structure with a vacant saloon and a store on the ground floor in front and a large room in the rear. The store is leased and the saloon part will be made into a gymnasium. It is 50x20. The back room is 20x20 and will be used as an office and reading room. Another brick structure adjoining will contain the baths, dressing and locker rooms. A frame dwelling on the Cherry street side is included and will probably be used by the caretaker. There are fifteen rooms in all upstairs. Some have already been engaged as offices and the majority of them will be furnished as dormitories, thus providing revenue toward the maintenance of the work.

The colored workers met last night and will enter immediately upon a canvass to raise the \$1,500 fund. President Davis of the colored branch started the fund with a subscription of \$100. It is hoped to raise practically the entire amount among the colored citizens. A big membership contest is also planned. Secretary Jackson states that other plans include a Y. M. C. A. day in the colored churches, a general rally, day on subscriptions and donations from the colored lodges.

The colored committee of management consists of M. A. Davis, chairman; Dr. Jeremiah Jackson, secretary; J. D. Cox, H. D. Smith, Jacob Ledford, P. T. Miller, Dr. G. W. Buckner, Wesley Baker, and J. T. Roberts.

## GIVES NEGRO A HIGH OFFICE

Taft Makes W. H. Lewis Assistant Attorney General of The United States.

Mount Adv - 10-27-10

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26.—President Taft, it was stated today, has decided to appoint a colored man to the highest office in an executive branch of the Government ever held by a member of that race. William H. Lewis, at present an assistant district attorney at Boston, is to be made an assistant attorney general of the United States.

The appointment has been agreed upon by the President and Attorney General Wickersham. Just what duties will be assigned to the new assistant when he takes office has not been



decided.

The appointment is in line with President Taft's policy of recognizing negroes in the government service, but taking these appointments as far as possible out of the Southern States, where friction has been caused in the past by negro Federal office holders.

# BRANDS NEW LAW AS INQUITOUS

## Judge John Ross Against Early Registration.

### Wholesale Disfranchisement Is Not Necessary for the Purity of the Ballot in Georgia, Says the Prominent Macon Jurist.

Macon, Ga., March 22.—(Special.)—Judge John P. Ross has made an investigation which to him and to a number of prominent lawyers of Macon discloses the fact that the registration in Georgia must be closed on April 4, instead of April 5, as is generally understood now over the state.

This is an interpretation of the law as it stands. He makes a strong hit at the fallacy of the registration in making a statement today, as follows:

"I think even the wary have fallen into a series error as to when the right to register ceases. The books will close with the end of April 4 and not April 5, as has been published. The law says that the tax collector shall close said voters' books for said election six months before the date of said general election. Months in that law means a calendar month. The election for governor will be on October 5. The last day six months before that date is April 4, and the voters' book must be closed the night of April 4.

#### Criticizes Law.

"I am opposed to that part of the law of 1901 which disfranchises for all elections this year every citizen who fails to register before April 5. I am not influenced in my opinion of that law by any consideration of any person or persons who favored or procured its enactment. I am not concerned in criticising its purpose. In common with every citizen, I exercise my right to pass judgment on the wisdom of that law.

"In doing so, I condemn it as unjust to the citizens of Georgia, who have the right to vote on all questions as to measures and men, and as a law prop to the dangerous tendency to revert a government by the mar-

government by the law.

"I favor a pure ballot and a free ballot as well. I am against the sacrifice of a pound of freedom for the hope of a pennyweight of purity. I do not believe that every upright and intelligent white citizen who fails to register nearly fifteen months before a governor is inaugurated and nineteen months before congressmen enter upon their duties, should be disfranchised from taking part in the election of governor and congressmen. The electorate should not be determined so long before public officers are to be elected and enter upon their duties.

#### Not Necessary.

"I am against the wholesale disfranchisement, which is not necessary for the purity of the white ballot of Georgia. The April limit for registration will fool many good citizens out of their right to vote, and it will not be a harmless 'April fool' joke, but a grievous injustice to good citizens.

"Plutocrats may think that a man without property should have no right to vote. I do not. A man with a country he loves and supports should be given all reasonable opportunity to qualify himself and vote.

"That law is especially bad in its insidious inequality towards farmers and all who live away from county

## Liberia Wants Help

MANAGED BY GREAT BRITAIN AND FRANCE. COMMISSION SAYS—FROM NEW YORK TRIBUNE

Washington, March 25.—Pressed on one side by France and by Great Britain on the other, Liberia is between two millstones, which threaten to grind it off the map unless it has the support of some power commensurate in strength with Great Britain and France.

This is one of the principal conclusions expressed in the report of the American Commission to Liberia, which was transmitted to Congress today by President Taft with a special message. After reviewing the dangers which threaten Liberia the Commission makes the following recommendations:

That the United States extend its aid to Liberia in the prompt settlement of her boundary disputes.

That the United States enable Liberia to refund its debt by assuming as a guarantee for the payment of obligations under such an arrangement the control and collection of Liberian customs.

That the United States lend its assistance to reform the internal finances of Liberia.

That the United States aid in organizing and drilling a competent constabulary or frontier police.

That the United States establish and maintain a research station there.

That the United States reopen the question of establishing a naval coaling station in Liberia.

The reform programme adopted on the advice of Great Britain is condemned by the Commission, and the causes are described in the report as "the bungling of British officials in 1909," which resulted in a frontier police officered largely by British. That feature the Commission declares impossible for the good of Liberia.

In summarizing conditions the Commission says that help from the United States is

demanded, as Great Britain and France are not in position to give disinterested assistance. Suggestions have also been made to the Liberian government by the Commission, but the whole situation is summed up as hopeless for the little nation unless the United States helps her.

## National Negro Exposition Suggested 2-19-10

The editorial which follows is clipped from the New York Age. It well sums up the desirability of having in 1913 a National Negro Exposition. The New York World in its issue of Sunday, February 13, publishes on its editorial page this clipping from The Age entire.

A recent editorial of The New York World in regard to Dr. Booker T. Washington's "Story of the Negro" makes this statement:

Contemporary accounts of civilization in the making are rare indeed. The earlier struggles of nearly every race are obscured in a mist of myth and tradition.

It happens, however, that the record of the American Negro's progress, from savagery, to slavery, onward toward civilization, can be compiled from fairly authentic sources and this is the record that Dr. Washington has made.

In spite of all that Dr. Washington says in his history of the Negro, of what the native African has accomplished in a primitive way in the arts, industry, agriculture and government, we cannot disguise from ourselves the fact that, as a whole, the blackman's Africa presents a picture of a retrograde civilization of warfare, tribalism, such, tribe during the other more than a half a century.

Africa has made a great leap forward in the last few years, the most rapid and most wonderful leap in the history of mankind.

It is a leap which has been made in the face of the most formidable obstacles, and it is a leap which has been made in the face of the most formidable obstacles.

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self, through education and through struggle, the freedom that it has won.

In 1913 the Negro has this opportunity to celebrate the close of the most important period in its history. It has been proposed that this celebration should be the form of an exposition which will show the progress of the Negro from the time of his first appearance on the continent of America to the present day.

We believe that the South, which has been the most backward of the sections of the country, will exhibit in a new and novel way, the progress of mankind.

In showing the progress of a people that has risen in so short a time, from depths so low, it will throw a new light on the possibilities of the human mind.

More than that, a celebration of the character suggested is one in which the whole world might well feel an interest, for an exposition that shows the progress of the Negro will exhibit, in a new and novel way, the progress of mankind.

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As an evidence of what the progress of the Negro has made and as a result of progress and prospect of what this proposed celebration should be, we recommend "The Story of the Negro," in which Dr. Washington has written the history of the Negro's life.

## EXTEND Y. M. C. A. TO NEGROES JULIUS ROSENWALD OFFERS TO ERECT ASSOCIATION BUILDINGS IN EVERY CITY IN COUNTRY ON CONDITIONS.

CHICAGO, Jan. 1.—A move to extend the scope of the Young Men's Christian Association to negroes was made here today with an offer by Julius Rosenwald, head of a big commercial house, to give \$25,000 to every city in the United States which raises \$75,000 to be spent for a Y. M. C. A. building for negroes. The offer is good for five years and the only stipulation is that the entire sum must be spent for land, building and furnishings of the institution.

The offer was made at a meeting at which plans were completed for building a Young Men's Christian Association building for Chicago negroes and came after Mr. Rosenwald gave \$25,000 for the building. It is according to Y. M. C. A. officials here, the first move of the association to aid in a solution of the race problem.

"It seems to me that both in the interests of the negroes and of the

country, it is essential there should be in every community having large numbers of negroes, a building primarily for men and boys," said Mr. Rosenwald. "They have not yet in their own ranks a sufficient number of persons whose means would enable them to establish and equip such a building and it is in my judgment the duty of the white people to aid in supplying this need."

Mr. W. Messer, general secretary of the Chicago Association, is in charge of awards and he is empowered to deliver the \$25,000 to any community as soon as \$75,000 of the sum named is raised.

Mr. W. Harris, head of the Young Men's Christian Association, is in charge of awards and he is empowered to deliver the \$25,000 to any community as soon as \$75,000 of the sum named is raised.

An organization of 500 persons was formed which will begin tomorrow the task of raising at least \$75,000 to be added to the sum to be spent in the erection of a building in the negro section of this city.

## Freedman's Savings and Trust Company.

Recommendations have been made by my predecessors that Congress appropriate a sufficient sum to pay the balance—about 28 per cent—of the amounts due depositors in the Freedman's Savings and Trust Company. I renew this recommendation, and advise also that a proper limitation be prescribed fixing a period within which the claims may be presented, that assigned claims be not recognized, and that a limit be imposed on the amount of fees collectible for services in presenting such claims.

## Semi-Centennial of Negro Freedom.

The year 1913 will mark the fiftyth anniversary of the issuance of the Emancipation Proclamation granting freedom to the negroes. It seems fitting that this event should be properly celebrated. Already a movement has been started by prominent negroes, encouraged by prominent white people and the press. The South especially is manifesting its interest in this movement.

It is suggested that a proper form of celebration would be an exposition to show the progress the negroes have made, not only during their period of freedom, but also from the time of their coming to this country.

I heartily indorse this proposal, and request that the executive be authorized to appoint a preliminary commission of not more than seven persons to consider carefully whether or not it is wise to hold such an exposition, and if so, to outline a plan for the enterprise. I further recommend that such preliminary commission serve without salary, except as to their actual expenses, and that an appropriation be made to meet such expenses.



# WHAT THE NEGRO IS DOING FOR SELF

(Written for The Register.)

Shortly before he died the lamented Henry W. Grady was invited by the Merchants' Association of Boston to join them in a banquet and discuss the race problem. He delivered on that occasion a speech so remarkable that it attracted the attention of the whole country, and was printed by the leading papers of the country.

Among other things the great Southerner said:

"I bespeak your patience while, with vigorous plainness of speech, seeking your judgment rather than your applause, I proceed step by step. We give to the world this year a crop of 7,500,000 bales of cotton, worth \$450,000,000 and its cash equivalent in grain, grasses and fruits. This enormous crop could not have come from the hands of sullen and discontented labor. It comes from peaceful fields, in which laughter rises above the hum of industry, and contentment runs with the singing plow.

"It is claimed that this ignorant labor is defrauded of its just hire. I present the tax books of Georgia, which show that the negro, twenty-five years ago a slave, has in Georgia alone \$10,000,000 of assessed property, worth twice that much. Does not that record honor him and vindicate his neighbors?"

In that great speech the matchless Southern orator discussed the economic value of the negro, showing, among other things that the negro produced yearly one billion dollars in farm products. That was about twenty years ago.

I have before me the statement of the fifty negro banks, including the bank organized in Selma, Ala., on November 1. Another negro bank, organized December 4, will open for business in Mobile, Ala., on the eighth of January. It has been incorporated with an authorized capital of \$50,000, \$25,000 of that amount collected and deposited with a leading trust company of Mobile. This prospective bank will be known as The Safety Banking and Realty Company. Henry N. Newsome will be the president, Ibbey E. Evans, vice president; James R. Knox, cashier; Albert Boyd, secretary; William J. Robinson, manager real estate department, and Mrs. Sarah J. Duncan, stenographer. Albert Boyd, Henry Knox, W. J. Robinson, I. E. Evans, James R. Knox, Fred Green and H. N. Newsome are the directors. The company purchased the three-story brick edifice, 256 St. Michael street, in which they will operate. The bank is organized according to the banking laws of the state and every officer will be under heavy bond, ranging from \$2,000 to \$10,000.

Henry N. Newsome, the president, is energetic, enterprising and possessed of those qualities which make things go. Pastor of one of the largest and best churches of Mobile, and having had much experience in handling large business enterprises, he seems to be peculiarly fitted for the place.

Ibbey E. Evans, the vice president, has handled considerable property in Mobile and has succeeded in all his business ventures. His standing among all classes is good.

James R. Knox, the cashier, is the son of a wealthy farmer near Brundidge, Ala., and learned the banking business in the Penny Savings Bank of Birmingham, Ala.

Albert Boyd, the secretary, is a successful undertaker and one of the best known men in the state. He formerly owned the building in which the bank will operate.

W. J. Robinson of the real estate department has a practical knowledge of the business which he will manage. All the officers of this prospective bank are personally known to the writer. The public may safely repose confidence in them.

While I was in the Gulf City investigating this new business enterprise my attention was called to the life and achievements of one of the most successful educators of the race—Professor William Aymer Caldwell, principal of Broad-street Academy. Professor Caldwell first saw the light of day, in Mobile fifty years ago the twenty-second day of last September. His free parents had formerly been the property of Judge John A. Campbell, associate justice of the United States supreme court. He was trained under some of the best teachers of the public and private schools of Mobile, graduating from the Emerson Normal Institute in 1876, when he was fifteen years of age, in the first class of colored graduates in the history of Mobile.

After spending two years in the Talladega College, Professor Caldwell decided to study medicine at the Meharry Medical College, Nashville, Tenn. During this time, 1880, he was elected the first colored principal of a school in Mobile. When the Broad Street Academy was erected in 1887 as a school of high grade for colored pupils, Professor Caldwell was appointed principal by the board of school commissioners, which position he has held continuously to the present. His services as an educator in his home city covers twenty-nine years, including twenty-two spent as principal of Broad Academy.

What has Professor Caldwell achieved? I answer: Broad Street Academy has turned out nineteen classes from the high school department, numbering 112 graduates, about seventy-five of whom became teachers in the public schools of the city and county. Others became mechanics, clerks, merchants, mail carriers, professional men and students in higher institutions of learning.

Professor Caldwell's broad scholarship and ripe experience, coupled with his popularity, induced the educators of the state to elect him president of the Colored State Teachers' Association, which position he held two years, 1906-1908.

The honorary degree of A. M. was conferred on him by Selma University in 1907. I might add that the first class graduated from Broad Street Academy was in 1891. Of that class Josephine Blackledge (Allen) founded the Josephine Allen Institute of Mobile, of which popular institution of learning she is still principal.

William H. Brazier, many years a

teacher in his alma mater and now principal of the Augusta Street school, recently named the W. H. Council school; William H. H. Dixon, many years principal of Augusta Street school, now holds the responsible and lucrative position as inspector of a very large mutual aid association, doing business in four or five states; Susie Miller (Little), principal of the Baptist Academy, Daphne, Ala.; Janie Williams (Jackson), many years teacher in her alma mater; Vivian F. Packer, manager of the firm of Jendison & Co., a business man whose rare qualities and business sagacity have enabled him to build up a grocery business in Mobile running up into the thousands of dollars a year, besides accumulating much property from which he collects rent. And I might mention the name of Henry Europe Jones, many years a teacher, now pastor of a C. M. E. church, Verona, Miss.

During all these years Professor Caldwell was not only recognized as the leader of his race in educational matters in Mobile, but he has all along been so regarded by the school board, composed always of the best brains of the white people of Mobile. By his own people, Professor Caldwell's scholarship, fitness, rectitude and integrity have never been questioned.

Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, December 21, 1909.

## THE NEGROES OF TENNESSEE.

### BOOKER WASHINGTON'S CAMPAIGN

For Education and Racial Peace—What Was Said of Negro Progress—An Encouraging Situation. Correspondence of The Republican.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., November 24, 1909. At noon November 18 a party of colored men, headed by Booker T. Washington started by special train from Bristol, Tenn., on an eight days' campaign through the state in the interest of negro education and of racial peace. The party made up, for the most part, of colored business and professional men from different parts of Tennessee, members of the local negro business league in the town where and cities through which the party passed. At different points along the route the party was joined by other noted colored men from other and more distant parts of the country who are interested in the plans and purposes for which this expedition was undertaken. Among these were William H. Lewis, assistant United States district attorney of Boston; John E. Bush, receiver of public moneys, of Little Rock, Ark.; Bishop W. B. Scott of Monrovia, L. J. colleges, one of them a medical school, and all of them supported entirely by the contributions of the negro people in this vicinity. The colored people seem to be doing particularly well in the country districts. One of the places visited by the party was the city of Hopkinsville, Ky., which is just over the edge of Tennessee, and the center of the Burley tobacco region. Hopkinsville was the scene a few months ago of one of the most famous exploits of large part of their success to the advice of tobacco farmers in this region are doing particularly well, and one of them, Tom Wright of Cerulian Springs, is said to have taken the prize regularly for a number of years for the best sample of dark tobacco produced in Christian county. Near this city, also, is the famous St. negro in the South has a white friend.

represented the sentiment of the most influential of the negro people of the state. The plan of the journey and arrangement of local committees provided that the party should visit 20 or 30 towns between Bristol, which is on the northeast line between Virginia and Tennessee, and Memphis, which is in the southwest corner of the state. The eastern, middle and western portions of Tennessee, of which Knoxville, Nashville and Memphis are respectively the centers of population, are widely different in their industries, in their history and in the character of their people. The journey to these different cities and intervening points gave Mr. Washington and his party an opportunity to see the masses of the negro people and to note their condition in all the varied circumstances which southern life presents.

In eastern Tennessee they saw for the most part a mining population in which the whites largely outnumber the negroes. In central Tennessee, in the region north of Nashville, they found a large colored population at work in the coal mines and in the tobacco fields. In the regions around Memphis they saw a negro population which is composed of people who come from the cotton plantations. Memphis probably has, at the present time, the largest negro population in the United States, and Shelby county, in which Memphis is situated, probably has the most concentrated negro population in the United States. In each of the principal cities visited the party found a little group of prosperous negro business men. In Chattanooga, for example, two of the best drug stores in the city are conducted by colored men. A colored man also owns the handsome three-story brick building adjoining the municipal auditorium where Mr. Washington spoke Friday night. No November 20, to an audience of 6000 persons.

Nashville probably has the most prosperous and the most intelligent community of colored people of any city in the South. There are not less than six negro business men in that city who are estimated to be worth at least \$100,000. Nashville has also two negro banks, and is the home of the National Baptist publishing company, which prints most of the literature for the million and a half colored Baptists in the United States. This concern publishes nine periodicals, and does an annual yearly business of more than \$200,000. Memphis has in R. A. Church, who is said to pay taxes on \$220,000 worth of property, the wealthiest negro in the state. Mr. Church owns, among other things, an amusement park in the center of the city, which contains the auditorium in which Mr. Washington spoke during his visit to the city. The colored people of Memphis also have one bank, a hospital, and two colleges, one of them a medical school, and all of them supported entirely by the contributions of the negro people in this vicinity.

The colored people seem to be doing particularly well in the country districts. One of the places visited by the party was the city of Hopkinsville, Ky., which is just over the edge of Tennessee, and the center of the Burley tobacco region. Hopkinsville was the scene a few months ago of one of the most famous exploits of large part of their success to the advice of tobacco farmers in this region are doing particularly well, and one of them, Tom Wright of Cerulian Springs, is said to have taken the prize regularly for a number of years for the best sample of dark tobacco produced in Christian county. Near this city, also, is the famous St. negro in the South has a white friend.

Bernard mining company's properties, where 3000 colored and 2000 white miners are employed. The head of this company, J. B. Atkinson, is recognized as a friend of the colored people. For example, his private secretary, bank boss in one of his offices, that is to say, the man who has charge of all the operations below ground, and a number of other men occupying responsible positions, are negroes. Mr. Atkinson employs three negro electricians who were educated at Armour institute, Chicago, at his expense. One of the wealthiest citizens of Hopkinsville was Peter Postelle, a colored man, who died a few years ago worth \$300,000.

At the meeting in Chattanooga, Mr. Washington was introduced by J. H. Coleman, a distinguished attorney of Chattanooga, who varied the usual formulas of introduction by relating to the audience facts to show to what extent the colored people have improved in Chattanooga in the 10 years since Mr. Washington had spoken in that city before. Among other illustrations of this progress, he mentioned the fact that not less than 100 telephones were used by the colored people of the city in their homes and places of business. In conclusion he said: "Our colored citizens are too busy to meddle much with politics, though they have two representatives in the city legislature."

Although colored people vote in Tennessee, they do not seem to be represented in the city or state governments outside of Chattanooga. Nashville, however, has a company of negro firemen who have been in service in that city for more than 30 years. Knoxville has four colored policemen, and in Clarksville it is said that all the letter carriers in the city are colored.

Among professional men, negro doctors, dentists and pharmacists seem to have been unusually successful in Tennessee. There are about 200 negro physicians in Tennessee, of whom about 165 or 170 have graduated from the Meharry medical school at Nashville. Nashville has 30 colored physicians, four colored dentists, and four colored drug stores. Memphis has something over 30 physicians, and maintains a flourishing local colored medical society, which is doing considerable service in the effort to improve the sanitary conditions of these parts of the city in which the majority of the negro population live. Everywhere throughout the state the visit of Mr. Washington and his party created the most profound interest both among colored and white people. Nowhere was it possible to obtain an auditorium large enough to hold the immense crowds that thronged to hear him speak, not even in the Ryman auditorium in Nashville, which holds 8000 people.

Some of Mr. Washington's utterances indicate the tenor of his argument and speeches. "A large part of our race troubles in the South," he said, "are in the newspapers. When a man is running for office he will say most anything. Frequently I have found that the persons who talk the loudest in public against the negro are in private, when at home, his best friends. Negro business men whom I have met in every part of the South have confessed to me that they owe a large part of their success to the advice and assistance they have received from southern white men. It would be impossible for us to have gained as much property and made as much progress as we have in the South if there was not a very large proportion of the population who were interested in our success. Every negro in the South has a white friend.



and every white man has a negro friend. Many honest southerners are still unconvinced that the negro is able to profit by education. It is the business of the people of my race to convince these men by the results of our education that every time a negro boy or girl is educated he becomes a better and more useful citizen. Negro schools in the South should seek to interest southern men in the work they are doing. They should have a larger number of southern trustees than they do at present. More than that, when it comes to voting, the colored people must learn to stand by the white people who are their friends. It frequently happens that a colored man will follow the advice of some southern white friend in all the practical matters of life until it comes to election day; then they part company."

Mr Washington's practical suggestion was that the friendly personal relations, existing between the races in the South, to which he referred again and again in the course of his speeches, should constitute the basis for a solution of the race problem. The purpose of his journey through the state, he said, was to arouse the colored people and the white people to a larger and deeper sense of the fact that in all the fundamental things of life the interests of the two races were one.

ROBERT E. PARK.

## PROGRESS OF THE NEGRO

### ADDRESS BY BOOKER WASHINGTON

### AT THE THEATER MEETING.

House Filled to Its Capacity and Many Turned Away—The Influence of the White Race in Shaping the Negro's Destiny.

An audience of 1900 men heard Booker T. Washington deliver a lecture on the present condition of the negro in America at the Young Men's Christian association meeting for men in the Court Square theater yesterday afternoon. There were several hundred more who would have liked to hear the lecture, as was shown by the requests for tickets that were made after all the tickets had been given out at the headquarters of the Young Men's Christian association and by the number of those who appeared at the door of the theater yesterday without tickets. On the stage were seated 100 clergymen and business and professional men of the city, and several clergymen from Chicopee and other places near-by. The boxes of the theater were filled with committeemen of the Young Men's Christian association or with business men of the city. None could be admitted who were not provided with tickets, as tickets had been issued for every seat, and the fire protection laws of the state would not permit anyone to stand in the theater.

Kenneth Robbie, general secretary of the central Young Men's Christian association, presided. The audience rose when Mr Washington came on the stage, and began the meeting a minute or two later by singing "America," in which they were led by Prof F. S. Hyde of the training school. John W. Roberts of the Unity church choir sang "O blessed day," accompa-



BOOKER T. WASHINGTON.

nied by Arthur H. Turner on the piano. Rev Dr Philip S. Moxom read a chapter of scripture and offered prayer. The other speakers in the Young Men's Christian association course of Sunday afternoon meetings for men were then announced by Mr Robbie, who also told an anecdote or two and set the ushers to work taking a collection. Mr Roberts sang "That beautiful land on high," which the audience enjoyed so much that he sang "Beautiful Isle of Somewhere," a song of similar sentiment and melodic style. Rev Dr Moxom in introducing Mr Washington spoke of the many enterprises started in behalf of the negro as a result of Mr Washington's work, and named among them an enterprise started in Springfield by Rev W. N. DeBerry with the object of training adequate, skillful and accomplished domestic help. He characterized Mr Washington as "the principal of Tuskegee institute and a major-general of the army of progress and advancing civilization."

Mr Washington began by saying that he was here because of his deep faith and interest in the work of the Young Men's Christian association, and partly, he admitted, to get relief from Mr Robbie, to whom, it appeared, he made a promise some time ago that he would be a speaker at one of the Sunday afternoon meetings for men. He said he would advise anybody not to make a promise to Mr Robbie unless he meant to keep it. He continued his humorous exordium with a story or two, and then affirmed that he had come to present the cause of his race, which is the cause of humanity, which is the cause of the nation. Everybody pays a good deal of attention to the negro problem, and some fellows who cannot earn their own living have solutions of it. Somebody whom he had heard of saw the beginning of the solution of the problem when 600 negroes were sent to Africa. That man forgot that on the same day there were 300 more negroes born in the South before breakfast. Some say it would be well to separate the negroes, but if that should be tried it would be found that a wall would be necessary to keep the negroes in and five more walls to keep the white man out. There isn't any spot in this land where the negro could be put and the white man wouldn't go after the negro. No negro in the South is happy unless he is with a white man, and no white man ever feels at home in any country where he cannot see black faces.

It has been said, Mr Washington continued, that the negro might be absorbed by some other race. Mr Washington said

he had never thought that practicable or desirable. Every negro worthy the name is as proud of his race as the white man is proud of his own. It takes 100 per cent of good Anglo-Saxon blood or something akin to it to make a white man, but 1 per cent of African blood is sufficient to make any person a negro. One per cent of negro blood will do for a negro what it takes 100 per cent of Anglo-Saxon blood to do for a white man. "By that kind of mathematics, you see, my race will absorb yours." The negro race is not going to be absorbed. Even the immigration officials are contributing to its numbers. Whenever there is a foreigner of dark skin about whose race they are in doubt they say, "We'd better give him to the negro and be on the safe side." The negro has lived under all circumstances of life in America, and has been concerned in all our great enterprises. When the Pacific coast was discovered a negro was at the white man's side; when Clark discovered Oregon a negro was at his side; when the North and South did battle the negroes fought at their sides, and when a white man discovered the north pole there was a great black negro by his side. And there doesn't seem to be any dispute as to whether or not he got there.

The negro has undergone a complete change in his language, his dress, his food, and his religion. He has changed from slave labor to free labor. From an individual denied an education, he has changed to an individual compelled, or permitted, to get an education. Whatever the changes he has continued to flourish. He has come to have more and more points in common with American civilization. He now digests, absorbs and uses his civilization, and when he came he quickly made himself at home. He didn't bring a heathen form of religion; he made himself at home with the religious ideas and practices of America. If the negro lives in a community where the white man is a Baptist, he is a Baptist, too; if the white man is a Methodist, the negro is a Methodist; if a Presbyterian, the negro is a Presbyterian, and if the white man is an Episcopalian the negro will become even an Episcopalian. In the matter of language, he adopts the language of the white people about him. If he lives in Boston he acquires a Boston accent; if he lives in Charleston, he has a Charleston accent. He prepares and eats the same food as the whites. And he eats as good food, too. If you've got any good food lying around anywhere, the negro will find it. He is, in fact, the very best judge of food. A hundred years ago he discovered the qualities of possum, and has been enjoying possum ever since, and now it has been discovered by a certain distinguished gentleman from Washington.

In his dress the negro is not a foreigner. In 10 days he laid aside his old dress and began wearing the same clothes as you do. And he wears good clothes. The negro woman gets behind in the fashions sometimes, but never more than a week behind. If a new style of bonnet appears on the street one Sunday, the negro woman may not have it that Sunday, but watch her the next. The negro woman is not behind other women in making attempts to alter the natural texture of her hair, only while other women are trying to make their hair curly, the negro woman is trying to make hers straight. And deep down in the heart of the negro there is the same love of Christian institutions that you have. He will lay down his life to defend his country's honor and his country's flag. The negroes are citizens of America and are going to remain.

With the white race lies the responsibility of the negro's future. Where the

white race is ignorant, low, vicious, fighting the law, the negro is like the white man, and where white men are of a higher type, obeying the law, righteous, clean, the negro imitates them also. It is a double responsibility, for the white people should seek to save their own race and by so doing to lift up the negro. The negro not only absorbs the ideas of your civilization; he uses them. There were some who said that when the negro was left on his own resources, he would not clothe, shelter or feed himself. But the negro is not a beggar. You seldom see a black hand at the street corner asking for alms. Except in special calamities, the negro has never asked a dollar from the nation. In these personal matters he has shown that he can take care of himself. In an almshouse in a city where there is a population of 30,000 blacks, there are only six who are being cared for by the public. His only appeal is for education and moral and religious training.

The negro is asking for a chance to demonstrate his ability of making progress in the industrial life. Wherever he is ashamed of his race, and the man or woman who gets the chance the black man is making good. The race was in poverty only a few years ago. To-day in Virginia you'll find 1-24th of the land owned by negroes. Throughout the South graduates of the schools for negroes have gone, and every-

where they have helped their race to make progress. There is a closer relation between the individual white man and the individual negro in the South than there is in the North. In Georgia and Alabama the black men who work as firemen receive door of the high school flies open to the same pay as the whites. Whatever the negro who would enter, without hindrance, friction, prejudice and injustice there he is in many directions, the negro gets college fees open to him. He is, too, becoming a business element in the Southland. He began by selling chickens or pies or quilts on the street. To-day there are 10,000 stores of a general character owned by colored men, and 200 drug stores. The negroes have 80 insurance companies, some of which are no doubt, rather weak. In Chattanooga there is a drug store as large as any negro sets such an example before the Springfield owned by two negroes and patronized by colored doctors, whom white people have helped to educate since the race became free. And wherever the negroes are prospering in business or "samples" of the negroes of the South. If the professions there are generally white men who are encouraging and helpful, the growing hostility between the white man and the black man in the South is a thing that exists for the moment only in the speechmaking of the who are running for governor and who have been elected to the United States Senate. The negro does business freely and openly with the best type of whites they cannot see, the South.

Before the education of negroes began only 3 per cent of them could read and write. Now 57 per cent can both read and write. Furthermore, the negro is molding a strong religious character. Also, he is keeping his feet on the earth. There are some who formed their judgment of the negro when he was passing through his "silly period." A race, like a man, has his "silly period." When a boy is 17 he thinks he knows more than he could ever hope to know in all his life if he should live to be 100. Thirty years ago some persons became disgusted with the effects of the education of the negro, because some young negroes who had been through college appeared with patent leather shoes, kid gloves and a big stick, and spoke a language that neither they nor anybody else could understand. One must not forget to be patient with a race as with the 17-years-old boy. The race is now settling down. The industrial education of the negro is helping him to settle down. It enables him to keep in touch with wood,

leather, iron,—the real things of life.

## ADDRESS TO COLORED PEOPLE

### Mr Washington Speaks to Them at High School Hall.

The colored people of the city had the chance to hear the distinguished leader of their race in present-day America at a meeting held in high school hall at the conclusion of the meeting in the Court Square theater. Rev W. N. DeBerry presided. The choir of St John's church, four men and four women, sang "Steal away," which they merged into a chant of the Lord's prayer. Mr Washington began with a few humorous remarks, but on the whole the tone of his talk, which was brief, was more serious than that of his longer speech before an audience of 1300 white men in the theater. He said there are two classes of people whom in particular he despises the man or woman who is ashamed of his race, and the man or woman who is ashamed of his birthplace, good. The race was in poverty only a few years ago. To-day in Virginia you'll find perhaps more opportunities to earn money, and certainly more opportunities to spend money.

If he has greater ease in getting an education in the North than in the South, the greater difficulty to find a place for using his education when it has been got. The negro who would enter, without hindrance, friction, prejudice and injustice there he is in many directions, the negro gets college fees open to him. He is, too, becoming a business element in the Southland. He began by selling chickens or pies or quilts on the street. To-day there are 10,000 stores of a general character owned by colored men, and 200 drug stores. The negroes have 80 insurance companies, some of which are no doubt, rather weak. In Chattanooga there is a drug store as large as any negro sets such an example before the Springfield owned by two negroes and patronized by colored doctors, whom white people have helped to educate since the race became free. And wherever the negroes are prospering in business or "samples" of the negroes of the South. If the professions there are generally white men who are encouraging and helpful, the growing hostility between the white man and the black man in the South is a thing that exists for the moment only in the speechmaking of the who are running for governor and who have been elected to the United States Senate. The negro does business freely and openly with the best type of whites they cannot see, the South.



## A DOCTRINE OF REFORM.

Savh 7. 12-17-10

Under the caption of "Doctrine of Reform," the Charleston Messenger writes some sound logic, such as requires leaders of the race to set up and take notice in cities, other than Charleston. The suggestion is worth while to be considered by leading men and women in all large cities. The condition beggars description in many cases with young men and women of today.

"There is no better time than now to preach the doctrine of reform in Charleston. There are hundreds, but we may add thousands, of hale, hearty, strong men and young women who are on the downward road, whose circumstances are past reciting and who are absolutely doing nothing but idling away their time. While there are millions of dollars, a gold mine just outside of the city. The counties of Berkeley and Dorchester are composed of some of the finest lands in the state. Some of it is almost equal to the valley of Arkansas and Texas, just in a stone's throw of Charleston, and if every idle man and woman would just go out to work, there would be a remarkable improvement.

"In and around Ladson today there are over one hundred bales of cotton in the fields to be picked. The farmers are willing to give 75 cents per hundred for picking and cannot get it picked. Peas are rotting, and they cannot get them picked, and many other things on the farm; and here are hundreds of idlers half naked and half starved for want of help, and they are too lazy to leave the city and go to work and dig up

the gold. This condition exists for want of leadership. The city fathers must take the business in hand, Charleston must be reformed. We must have better laborers, better servants, better everything in the way of getting something done properly. It is almost utterly impossible to get the full worth of the dollar you spend for a day's labor. If Charleston is to be improved the labor condition must be changed.

"In every ward of the city there should be an honest, upright, industrious Negro appointed by the city council to do nothing but go from house to house, alley to alley, door to door, who knows the Negro, whose business it shall be to see that every man living within the gates of the city have some occupation for a living or be made to skip the town or be sent to the farm.

"There are twelve wards in Charleston. It would take only twelve men at \$50 per month, which would be \$7,200 per year, and this would be the greatest investment ever made from the city treasury of Charleston. It would cut down the percentage of lying, stealing, drunkenness, dissipation, murder, friction and gambling; it would cut down the number of policemen and other officers to a decreased salary of almost \$50,000 per year.

"We want the doctrine of reform preached in Charleston; we want to see criminals and lawbreakers become citizens. The sooner you start the crusade the better it will be."—Charleston Messenger.

pected that the who are holding as their terms the most part of the recognition will be given to colored men in the North.

The list of colored men holding important offices in the South under the federal government includes the following: Robert Smalls, collector of customs at Beaufort, S. C.; Henry A. Rucker, collector of internal revenue at Atlanta; Joseph Lee, collector of internal revenue at Jacksonville, Fla.; Nathan Alexander, register of the land office at Montgomery, Ala.; Thomas V. McAllister, receiver of public moneys at Jackson, Miss.; Walter L. Cohen, register of the land office at New Orleans; Alexander B. Kennedy, receiver of public moneys at New Orleans; John E. Bush, receiver of public moneys at Little Rock.

The course the President will take in the matter of appointing colored men is likely to be illustrated in the selection of a successor to W. T. Vernon, register of the treasury. Booker Wash-

ington and other colored leaders have given their support to J. C. Napier of Nashville for the place, but it appears the President will probably select a colored man from the North.

Booker Washington was in this city a few days ago and it is said that he protested when he learned that neither Vernon nor Ralph Tyler, the latter an auditor for the Navy Department, were to be ousted. Neither of these pull with Washington.

## Proposed National Negro Exposition

Booker T. Washington, accompanied by Emmett J. Scott, his secretary, a member of the recent Liberian Commission, and Ernest Lyon, American minister to Liberia, were closeted with the President yesterday explaining a proposed exposition to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the freedom of the Negro race in America.

It is proposed that the exposition shall be held in 1913, its general aim being to show the Negro's progress during his fifty years of freedom in material, educational, moral and religious directions. President Taft expressed his deep interest, and promised to give his hearty good will and support to the movement.

### WASHINGTON'S STATEMENT

At the conclusion of the conference, Dr. Washington gave out the following statement:

"A movement has been started by leading colored people throughout the country looking toward the holding of an exposition in 1913 to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the freedom of the Negro race in America. I have been asked by a committee of colored people to place this matter before the President of the United States and enlist his sympathy and co-operation in the exposition, if possible.

"While definite plans have not been perfected, the general idea is to plan for an exposition that will show the Negro's progress during the fifty years of his freedom, in material, educational, moral, and religious directions, and also show the progress that he made during the days of slavery.

"It is the plan to enlist the help and sympathy not only of the colored people, but of the leading white people through the South and the North.

"This movement has already been widely discussed in the Southern white papers, and practically without exception both the Southern papers and leading Southern white men have have to it their cordial endorsement.

"Few movements can do more just now to encourage the Negroes to live high, useful lives and at the same time further cement the friendly relations existing between black people and white people than an exposition

of this kind. I am aware of the fact that a good many expositions have been held in recent years, but this will be so different and unique that I believe the people of this country will feel that there is a call for it, and that it ought to be held.

### WORLD TO BE TAUGHT LESSON

"Just now when the nations of Europe are deeply concerned about the millions of black people in Africa, I believe this country can teach the world a lesson through such an exposition, showing how it is possible for two races to live together in peace and in mutual helpfulness. There is no other part of the globe where so large a number of black people are living in close contact with so many white people, where there is such a degree of good will and absence of friction as in this country. This I state notwithstanding occasional outbreaks and eruptions which will take place in the case of any race.

"President Taft has expressed himself as being deeply interested in the project, and has promised to give to it his hearty good will and support."—Washington, D. C. Post, Nov. 18th.

Booker T. Washington, the recognized greatest leader of the Negro race in the United States, suggests a national Negro exposition in 1913 to celebrate the semi-centennial of Negro emancipation, and to

Some people v object, and may not believe in the advancement of the Negroes, industrially and educationally, but most white people, we think, will be glad to encourage and aid an exposition intended to show what the Negroes have accomplished during fifty years of freedom.

Considering their past environment, and their limited opportunities, their progress and accomplishments have been commendable and remarkable. Andrew Carnegie has said that the like of it was never seen. The Negroes were freed as a war measure, it had to come. Making them full-fledged voters and citizens was a mistake. But everybody ought to notice in and applaud whatever of good they have done for themselves, and for their country, for they have no other country.

Senator Tillman and ex-Governor A. A. Ransom and some others will no doubt cry out against any such encouragement of Negro advancement, for a white man counts as this suggestion implies, but it would be a pity if the advancement and improvement of any portion of the people, even the Negroes, make for the benefit of all. The Negroes cannot become more intelligent and capable without being better off in this country, and they have to live in it, and making it a better place for everybody to live in

And they can no doubt show a fine exposition. They have in the aggregate much ability, of various kinds, and they have advanced much in many ways. They are about 12,000,000 Negroes in the United States, and this number of people cannot be overlooked and should not be despised. Editorial Portland Ore. Journal.

Booker T. Washington, primary leader of Negro citizens of the United States, suggests a national Negro exposition in 1913 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of emancipation. He would have it in one of the larger cities of the South, centrally situated, in order that Negroes in large numbers could afford to attend and see what has been accomplished by the race since it was freed.

There are about 10,000,000 Negroes in the United States, most of them in the Southern States, and with the help of the national government and the state governments having considerable Negro populations such an exposition should be of value to the race. Dr. Washington is now sounding public sentiment. He realizes that the project would have assurance of the support of white people of the South and North as well as assurance of Negro support. With that support he believes it will be possible to have an exposition representing the progress of a whole race from barbarism to Christian civilization, which will astonish the world. His

## The Negro and the Carnegie Fund

April 15, 1901. By deed of gift, Mr. Andrew Carnegie, the steel magnate, set aside the sum of five million dollars, for the purpose of recognizing in a suitable manner the efforts of persons whose vocation in life is other than that of life-saving.

In his deed of trust, Mr. Carnegie made no specifications as to whom such aid and medals should be given, but simply stated that such should be given to "those following peaceful vocations, who have been injured in heroic effort to save human life," to place them "in somewhat better positions pecuniarily than before, until again able to work."

The Carnegie Hero Fund Commission reports, in its second publication, that of 3,219 acts of heroism 246 awards were made since the establishment of the fund, to and including January 31, 1906, both a medal and pecuniary losses refunded or covered being given in some cases; 2,169 cases where rewards were refused; 944 cases pending. There



were thirteen gold, one hundred four children,

thirteen silver, and one hundred twenty bronze medal awards, and \$100,000 given as pecuniary assistance to heroes and their dependents including amounts paid on pension allowances, and \$121,020.00 to funds for the relief of other sufferers from disasters, in such cases as mine, fire, and earthquake disasters.

At the date of publication the Commission was paying out annually \$10,320 as pecuniary awards.

Of the 246 granted cases, two cases were those in which a Negro was rescued.

John B. Hill, age thirty-five, a colored coachman, in Atlanta, Georgia, on the first of December, 1905, rescued Florence Williams, a young colored woman, of twenty-one years, and Thomas S. Prescott, a white child of six years, from a railway. Hill was awarded a bronze medal and given \$500 to reimburse him for pecuniary loss sustained by injuries.

On June 20, 1907, George A. Gray, aged thirty-three, a colored fireman, at that time, made an effort to rescue Charles G. Campbell, forty-six years old, president of the American Painting and Decorating Company, and Charles A. Whipple, forty-eight years old, superintendent of building construction, from a runaway. The injuries received by his being kicked out of the truck and run over by the wheels resulted in his death. An examination of the case was made by the Commission and a bronze medal was awarded.

On February 11, 1907, Sallie L. Crabbe, thirty-three years of age, and a housewife, died in an unsuccessful attempt to save a young colored man by the name of Ralph Young, a laborer nineteen years old. Both Mrs. Crabbe and Young were carried off by the current of the river at Wicomico, the ice of which they broke through in her effort to get Young out of a hole, and were drowned. A bronze medal was awarded and \$2,000 in trust for her

2. The first mentioned case under Negro Heroes, in which Florence Williams colored was rescued by John B. Hill, colored.

3. At Clayton, Alabama, February 15, 1906, Lochlin M. Winn, a physician thirty years of age, saved William Miller, a Negro laborer, fifty-four years of age, from drowning. In this case three men, the two others being white, were in a boat, which capsized at a distance of three hundred feet from the shore of a pond, on the night of above date. One man, of the three, swam to within sixty feet of the shore when he was rescued by the doctor, who became almost exhausted after he had successively swum the full distance to the other men, and aided them to the shore. He was awarded a silver medal.

4. On March 7, 1907, Merrit L. Brown, a forty-two-year old colored farmer, was saved by Clifford V. Graves, aged fifty, and a farmer, from an enraged bull, at Versailles, Kentucky. Graves, to whom a bronze medal and \$700 to be applied to the liquidation of his debts was awarded, sustained a fractured rib and bruises all over the body in his attack upon the animal, which was finally chased away by his dog.

5. On June 29, 1907, Warren Finley, colored, a thirty-year old laboring man was saved, being run over by a train, at Waterloo, South Carolina, by James B. Goldman, who was awarded a silver medal and given \$1,000 toward the purchase of a farm.

6. Frank Ombry, a thirty-seven year old foreman, died in his effort to save John Flynn, a Negro laboring man of fifty-eight years, from suffocation, at the bottom of a eleven foot sewer manhole in New Orleans, Louisiana, on October 22, 1907. Flynn was rescued later.

The widow of Ombry was awarded a silver medal and given \$2,000 to liquidate mortgage on her property; \$50 per month as living expenses and \$5 additional a month for each of her two children until each reaches the age of sixteen.

7. On September 8, 1908, Raymond A. May, a locomotive fireman, twenty-three years of age, rescued James L. Douglass, a two year old colored child, from the path of a train, which was going at the rate of thirty miles per hour, after applying

bracing himself to save the child, and was killed.

8. On August 1, 1907, a colored boy, at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, from drowning in the Schuylkill River, fifty feet from the bank. Arnholdt and the lad, who grabbed the weaver around the neck, were drowned. An additional amount of \$5 a month was given the widow for her daughter until she reaches the age of sixteen.

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National Negro Exposi-

tion  
Shelton 12-18-08

Washington, D. C., December 14, 1909. Last August at Louisville, Ky., the National Negro Business League passed a resolution empowering its President, Dr. Booker T. Washington, to proceed to formulate plans for holding in 1913 a Semi-Centennial Celebration of the Emancipation Proclamation.

Last month Dr. Washington laid the matter before President Taft, and the latter immediately gave his approval of the plan, and in his annual message transmitted to Congress Monday, December 6, not only indorsed the proposition, but requested permission of Congress to appoint a Commission to consider plans, etc., for holding such an exposition.

To carry out the President's suggestion, and at the request and suggestion of leading officers of the National Negro Business League, and other interested bodies, Congressman E. L. Taylor, Jr., of Ohio, member of the House Committee on Appropriations, and Congressman William A. Rodenberg, chairman of the House Committee on Industrial Arts and Expositions, have together offered the following joint resolution, which was introduced in Congress Tuesday of this week:

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress Assembled, that the President of the United States be, and he is hereby, authorized to appoint a commission consisting of seven persons to consider carefully whether or not it is advisable to hold an exposition in the United States in the year nineteen hundred and thirteen to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the issuance of the Emancipation Proclamation granting freedom to the Negroes; and that the said commission report to Congress on the first Monday in December nineteen hundred and ten.

Sec. 2. That to enable said commission to carry out the purposes of this Act, the

sum of five thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby authorized to be expended. The members of said commission shall serve without compensation, but shall be paid their necessary expenses, and disbursements made under this Act shall be made by the Secretary of the Treasury on vouchers approved by the chairman of said Commission.

## An Expert On Antiques.

Valuable Collection Made by an Afro-American of Savannah, Ga., Who is an Authority on Rare Furniture and Relics of Various Kinds Has Two of Sherman's Officers' Swords.

Engaged in a class of business which is an exceptional vocation for an Afro-American, Mr. R. B. Brooks of Savannah, Ga., enjoys the distinction of being an expert on antique mahogany furniture and relics of various descriptions. He owns and manages an antique shop that is valued at thousands of dollars and is patronized by wealthy tourists from all sections of the country. He is an expert upholsterer, cabinet maker and an authority on Chipendale, Hepplewhite and colonial fur-



R. B. BROOKS.  
Savannah affords many attractions for tourists, but the shop of this Afro-American proves by its valuable relics to be among the interesting novelties of the city and is considered by hunters of curios to be a free museum. Among the varied articles of high

value, because of their history, will be found an original bill of sale of a large number of slaves sold during the year 1791, a unique collection of various costumes worn by women of the elite circles of the sixteenth century, a gold coin of 25 cents denomination and a coin called the "widow's mite," half a million dollars of which was exchanged for slaves in the southern states, and a plate used by the Confederate government for making paper money of various denominations.

When General Sherman left his encampment, near the present site of the Catholic cemetery, Savannah, his officers left two swords, which, with a cannon ball, are now in the possession of Mr. Brooks. He has a piece of the oak tree known as "John Wesley oak," in the suburbs of Savannah, under which the parent of Methodism preached his first sermon in this country. Quite a large sum of money has been offered him for his rare collections of stamps, letters and Mexican war relics. He has for sale a set of pitchers, some having been made for kings, that are worth more than \$550. He has newspapers that were published in the early period of journalistic efforts in America, and among them will be found a copy of the New York Herald, extra edition, 7:10 a. m., April 15, 1865, announcing the death of the illustrious Lincoln. A pair of scales were dug out of sixty-seven feet of earth at Milledgeville, Ga.

One of the Roosevelt family's heirlooms is in his possession, which is a cup owned by Miss Louisa Bullock, which was the property of her grandfather, who is the great-grandfather of ex-President Roosevelt. It is interesting to look at the sperm oil lamp made in Italy the early part of the seventeenth century and the various swords, jewelry, Sheffield plate, novelties of all kinds made out of brass and silver he has for display. He bears the distinction of owning the first automobile of French make ever run in the city of Savannah, which is still in perfect running order. It will take hours for one to make note of the hundreds of relics and history attached to the many pieces of furniture in Mr. Brooks' establishment. He is interested in a number of reputable Afro-American financial institutions and believes in preserving the antiques of the race. Being the only Afro-American in the country doing this class of business upon an extensive basis and selling from his catalogue and making exhibits in cities like New York and Boston, he is another concrete example of what native ability will do if properly directed.



## NEGRO'S SHARE IN PANAMA

### Much of Canal Credit Due to Men of African Blood—Race's Progress in Central American Countries

[Special Correspondence of The Evening Post.]

PANAMA, January 5.—To the pure-blooded African belongs a large part of the credit for digging the Panama Canal. The extent to which this country has become Africanized may be apparent from the following rough estimate of the composition of the population of the isthmus, exclusive of canal employees: Pure-blooded native whites, one-tenth; pure-blooded native Indians, one-tenth; pure-blooded native Africans, two-tenths; mixed white and African, three-tenths; mixed white and Indian, one-tenth; mixed African and Indian, one-tenth; mixed white, African, and Indian, one-tenth.

It thus appears that African blood is found in seven-tenths of the population. The African was brought here as a slave. He has conquered by assimilation. As Dr. Booker T. Washington says, 1 per cent. of African blood makes a man an African, while it takes a hundred per cent. of white blood to make a white man. It appears that the African has easily become the dominant element in Central America.

Perhaps the most striking characteristic of the African in history has been his persistent existence in spite of all the unfavorable circumstances of his racial career. "Like the camomile, the more he is trodden upon, the more he grows." The fact that he began his life in Central America only after the Indians had utterly failed to stand up under the rigorous regimen of Spanish discipline, is an indication of how unfavorable to progress were the conditions under which he renewed the struggle for existence which he had waged in his native wilds. Be it said, however, to the everlasting credit of the Spanish-Americans who threw off the yoke of the mother country under the inspiration of Simon Bolivar, that the first to feel the benefits of the new régime were the Africans in the new republics, and to this extent the advent of liberty in the Central and South American countries was more widespread and thorough-going than its first dawn in the United States.

#### AN AIR OF INDEPENDENCE.

This may account for the fact, at least

in part, that the negroes in Spanish America, even the lowest in the social scale, exhibit a certain independence of bearing and manner, an indefinable self-respect, which came late in the negroes of our own country, and in some cases has not yet fully arrived. I have remarked this characteristic many times in my dealings with these people, and I like to see them. I am reminded more of the air of freedom in my friends across the water, among the tribes of the Great Plateau of Central Africa, who were never enslaved, and whose attitude toward the white man is not that of a cringing subservience, such as marks the races which have had to endure centuries of serfdom.

The African here has not only imposed his physical type and preponderating numbers on the population, but he has modified the very manners and customs of the country into distinctly African types. This fact has struck my attention again and again, especially in many small matters, which are sometimes a true index to general tendencies. One of these is apparent in the style of the houses prevalent among the lowest classes. These are usually built on the square ground-plan of the African west coast, the walls of small upright sticks pushed into the ground, the roof upheld by four large upright posts, while the material used in covering is the leaf of the palm matted together on the midrib, and tied with rattan or other vines or bark on a lattice frame. This roof is one of the surest evidences of African influence, in shape, in its pyramidal form, and in the great height to which it towers. The aboriginal primitive Indian type, of course, was adobe, or bark, or skins, which are rarely used by any African tribes.

Now, what is remarkable about this prevalent architecture is that even when the Indian blood largely prevails, if there is much infusion of African, the African architecture dominates. The town of Arrajan, in which the Indian and African types are about evenly distributed, is wholly African, both in the style of the houses and in the style of the houses. States to the North, there were three powerful counteracting influences. The climate forced the negroes to abandon the African mode of life. They had to wear as heavy clothes as they could get, their houses had to be more solidly built, and they had to work much harder to obtain the necessities of life, to say nothing about satisfying the wants of their masters. Then, they did not find ready at hand so much of the same class of materials to which they had been accustomed as they did in South and Central America. Here they find the palms, the rattan, the bamboo, the bast, with which they had been familiar at home. Moreover, the African found already a peon class to which he considered himself equal, and this gave him a certain encouragement to retain some of his

self-respect, and hence to maintain much of his old culture, which was utterly taken out of him farther North.

In studying the relative character of the negro in Central America and in the South of the United States, a distinction

and in their arrangement in the village.

African influence prevails largely in the utensils and other artifacts, where these are home-made. There are many large drums in Narrancho and Puerto Chorrera which might easily have come from the Baschilele in the upper Congo region. In Arrajan there is some carved ornamentation—a tree with animals on it—over a doorway. The man who made it is only one-fourth African, but the art comes straight from the Bampende in the African province of Angola. There are also ornamented calabashes which can be almost exactly duplicated in the market at Banana, off the mouth of the Congo.

#### AFRICAN FOLK DANCES.

But if one wishes to see the African influence illustrated to perfection, let him attend a big dance. There is the identical step, body-swaying movement (akin to, but different from, the *danse du ventre* of Egypt), the frenzied twirling of arms and legs, the separation of men and women, the general march along a large circle, the tom-tom in the centre, and the use of rattles. Of course, primitive races have much in common in their music and dances all over the world, but one who has seen the really typical and aboriginal dances of both African and Indian tribes can tell the difference at a glance, and the African influence is seen here to the complete submergence of the Indian, even though Indian blood may predominate in the village.

The above is the case where the Indians have commingled with the descendants of the slaves brought over to Central America, and not in the places where they still retain their tribal organization and practically homogeneous life.

One interesting question is, why the negro here has retained so much of his original African culture, while in the United States it disappeared almost from the start. The reason is not far to seek. In the must be made between native force of character and acquired strength. For example, the two strongest Africans I ever knew in Central Africa—Menelik and Ndombe—derived little of their force from extraneous culture. On the other hand the two strongest Afro-Americans—Booker Washington and William H. Sheppard—are strictly the product of the good influences of contact with, and development from, the influence of the highest civilization. Each has some peculiar merit of its own—the original native force is to a considerable extent a necessity in either case, but capable of great modification, according to the kind of environment.

The negro here is freer from weakening or decimating diseases. In his natural environment there is comparatively little of

the dreadful ravage of pulmonary diseases, which cold and poverty bring upon him in the North. While some of the comforts of civilized life are relatively lacking, food, especially where other things are less essential, is plentiful in Central America. Then so much food is not required. And a cotton shirt and pair of trousers serve for all the purposes of comfort and decency, and cost less than fifty cents. The very heat conduces to frequent bathing. If it be charged that the sanitation of the Central American cities has been so woefully neglected, it is to be said that the responsibility for this rests in part on the whites, and in part on the fact that it is only lately that the parasite theory of the cause of malaria and other diseases has been developed. The Central American cities are no worse in this way than many Irish and Italian towns, and even malaria does not do the damage here among the poor that consumption does in London.

#### SLAVERY ABOLISHED SOONER.

Central and South America were settled earlier than the States farther North, and slaves were here sooner. This means that those lower countries had the pick of the coasts of Africa in the first instance. The methods by which the slave-traders carried on their nefarious business, arming the people immediately on the coast, and sending them to capture the finer natives in the remoter interior, tended to get the better Africans in the first instance. The later shipments came from the gradual sale of domestic slaves, under the stimulus of higher prices, and these domestic slaves in Africa are always inferior to the free-born and free-descended tribesmen. This would have given to Spanish-America, in the beginning, a higher type of negro. Of course, not a few of the better Africans did reach Virginia and the Carolinas, and gave rise to the exceptionally fine specimens, but in the better classes were taken further south.

Earlier independence was given to the slaves in most of Latin America, and the negroes played no small part in achieving the independence of these countries from Spain and Portugal—a fact of no little bearing on the subsequent history of the Spanish-American negro. The more dearly won, the more dearly prized, is liberty, and that race shows more of freedom which has done more of its share in achieving the boon.

The numerous petty revolutions down this way kept the African-blooded citizens inured to arms and developed in a way the same sort of warlike quality which the wars of Europe taught the Celto-Teutonic races. It is a pity that it is true; but it is true, none the less, that war plays a part in shaping racial and national character, and that the "canker of a long peace" sometimes leads to an inertia fatal to self-preservation in the face of warlike enemies or those frequently practised in

ing. Industrially the negro of the southern States may be ahead of his kinsman in Central America, but as a warrior his experience has been almost nil for three centuries. That he can fight was shown in Cuba, but that was the first chance for a long time.

Again, the Spanish attitude toward the African race has been different from the English, both at home and in the colonies. The children of mixed alliances were much more often recognized, provided for, and often educated by the Spaniards. This has had an enormous influence in differentiating the two sections of the African race in America.

#### EDUCATIONAL ADVANTAGES.

Much as has been said against the Catholic priesthood in Central and South America, the fact remains that the Catholic Church has always done more for the education of the masses of the colored people in these countries than the Protestant churches, until lately, ever did for the negroes in the South. In the matter, for example, of the languages, it is quite common for two or three to be spoken. The foreman on the hacienda where I have my headquarters is a half-breed of the ordinary type, living in a palm-leaf hut, but he speaks Spanish, French, and English well, and has some knowledge of the nearest Indian tongue. These schools are scattered in the most out-of-the-way places. Arrajan is a remote town which has to be reached by the worst roads this side of North Carolina. But schools are there. The padres, moreover, are not, as so often is the case at home, young men fresh from school or on a vacation, teaching a country school while waiting to go up higher, but men who devote their whole lives to a village or a district.

This is no booming of the Catholic Church. The writer happens to be an Orangeman from Berry way. But the testimony as to facts is undeniable.

The more favorable environment of a tropical race when transplanted on another tropical country than when carried to one wholly foreign to its whole history is so obvious a cause operating in favor of the Central American negro, that its statement is enough. In fact, the day may come when the influence of the Canal and of Spanish-American negro. The more dearly won, the more dearly prized, is liberty, slowly under way shall have borne fruit when this large obvious truth may teach the negro in the South that migration hither rather than to the North is the real path of his American destiny. It may take a long time, but there are many who believe that such a consummation would relieve a situation which must become more and more



## PRESIDENT TAFT'S NEGRO POLICY.

President Taft in finally removing Henry A. Rucker from the position of collector of customs at Atlanta has kept the promise he made to the people of the south both before and since his elevation to the presidency.

The act was in accordance with a well-defined policy determined when he went into office a year and a half ago, on March 4, 1909.

In speeches at Greensboro, N. C., before he was even nominated for his present high office; at Augusta, Ga., since his election, and at other points President Taft said he would never name to federal positions men who were not acceptable to the community to be served.

His deeds have matched his words. In rewarding his colored supporters of the republican clan, he has kept faith with the people of the south.

Recently the president named Henry Lincoln Johnson, of Atlanta, to an important federal office, at a good salary; but the duties of the office called the negro Johnson to Washington, D. C. He was not sent to a community where he was persona non grata.

Following this reward given to one Atlanta negro, the president has removed another negro from a position where he came in contact with the leading business men of the city.

While it was to be expected that the president would seek to retain the support of a race which largely makes up the southern delegations to republican national conventions, it is gratifying to know that he seems to have decided not to do so at the expense of the feelings and prejudices of the people of the south.

## WILL 50,000 WHITE GEORGIANS DISFRANCHISE THEMSELVES?

By closing the registration books, under the new law, in times of political stagnation rather than under the old law, in times of political excitement, 50,000 more white Georgia democrats are threatened with automatic disfranchisement for the elections of this year.

Proof is presented elsewhere in today's Constitution.

On the basis of the present registration, and allowing for the registration of the next two weeks, it appears that IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD OF 50,000 WHITE GEORGIA DEMOCRATS ARE LIABLE TO DISFRANCHISE THEMSELVES UNLESS THEY REGISTER BY APRIL 5. NOT TWO WEEKS OFF. THE MAJORITY OF THOSE WHITE DEMOCRATS WILL BE GEORGIA FARMERS.

Under the new law, which removes the stimulus to registration, the registration thus far in about sixty counties is 96,173, against a total registration of 127,891, as made up of the highest registration in these counties for the years 1908-1909.

Figuring upon the rate of registration already recorded this year, it is safe to assume that in the 146 COUNTIES OF THE STATE THERE WILL BE A TOTAL SLUMP OF 77,380, AS COMPARED WITH 1908 AND 1909.

The probable registration this year, under the new law, will be about 200,000, as against about 260,000 for the two previous years.

The fact that disfranchisement is self-imposed does not make it less final. The fact that the legislature, peradventure, may this summer re-open the doors by extending the limit DOES NOT JUSTIFY ANY DILATORY GEORGIAN IN COURTING DIS-

## FRANCHISEMENT.

Ignorance or forgetfulness, perfectly natural under the conditions, ARE PENALIZED BY DISFRANCHISEMENT UNDER THE NEW LAW. That is all there is to it, with the VOTER HAVING HIMSELF TO BLAME IF HE DOES NOT REGISTER BY APRIL 5.

## THE FUTURE OF THE RACE

Dependent Upon the Restrictions and the Home-Training of the Unit of the Race.

There is a crying need in the city of Richmond for some method or means to put an end to youthful immorality—youthful obstreperousness. Boys at the age of twelve are men. Girls at the age of twelve are women, and grown up old men and women recognize these midgets as men and women. We were walking along the street the other day and saw a little girl coming up the street. The girl was of robust physique and in short skirts. She was, to appearance, a well-raised child and we considered her as such. Coincidentally, she turned into the same street in which we turned. Before us, going in the opposite direction, were two young men, apparently of good raising, well-dressed and comely lads they were. But their conduct belied their looks. This fact, their language to the child, was attested. The conduct of the two was such as would pain the heart of any student of conditions as related to our race. Now possibly, all three of these children—for children they would have, in other days than these, been considered—may have been saved to the race if some means of restraint had been brought to bear to have impressed them of the folly of their way and the ultimate end of their cultivated methods.

Now, this is but one illustration of what really exists in this and other cities. It is a shame that should be publicly condemned by all decent people, that grown-up men hang around and "chin" little girls who, of right should at the time be kneeling by the knees of their mothers saying their "Now I lay me down to sleep"

But the men are not alone to be condemned. For the women, too, line up with boys yet in their "teens" and allow them privileges that even men should not be allowed. They make of these boys men aforetime, and thus issue them into avenues which bring senility to youth and consequently, sterility of age—a fine process of murdering both the present and future generation or placing upon the latter the brand of imbecility and worthlessness.

Under these conditions the race cannot develop into men and women, strong of character and of mind, nor powerful of body. This should be a matter of grave concern to every Negro who has the future of the race at heart. Parents should place the "lid" down tighter upon their children. They should restrict their outgoings and their incomings. They should regulate the conduct of the youth with the old-time regulator. They should be careful of the company their children keep. This should be the point through which a social divisor should be drawn. Privilege should be based upon worth in morals and not upon color or creed. For that people will most effectually inherit the earth who, in protection of the virtue of their women and of their boys and girls, build the strongest fences. Therefore, put the boot to the idler, the "dude," the worthless plotter against the hearth and home around which and in which the jewels of the family circle—the comely girls and the manly boys, who are the future of the race and the perpetuators of our hope of the yet to be—Exchange.



# What The Negro Is Doing For Himself In The South

Nearly all the backward races are exceedingly sensitive to the touch of criticism. Perhaps China is an exception to this rule. They have a civilization of their own which they consider superior to all others.

Japan, struggling to take her place among the powers of the world, was greatly encouraged in her war with Russia by England, her great ally, and by the United States, whose moral support she enjoyed.

The negro is a backward race struggling to take his place as a useful American citizen. He can be very greatly encouraged by even a kindly word spoken by his white neighbors. When John B. Gough was friendless and homeless and discouraged, Joel Stratton laid his hand upon his shoulder and spoke words of encouragement. The first glimmer of the star of hope then shed its beams upon his pathway. It was the turning point in Gough's history. In the coming days the negro will always remember words of encouragement spoken by the white people.

In my first article, I wrote an account of the Macon County Negro Fair, showing the great variety of the exhibits and the perfect order of the 4,000 visitors. In my next article I wrote about a few prosperous negroes. Last week I called attention among other things to "the watermelon king," J. D. McDuffy, of Ocala, Fla. In every large city of the South, there are negro contractors and builders. In the execution of the contracts, these builders are required to make a personal or surety bond for the faithful performance of the contract. To be able to make these bonds, contractors must have considerable cash, and unencumbered property far in excess of their liabilities. Negro contractors with these requirements have no difficulty in making their bonds.

R. E. Pharrow, of Birmingham, has made wonderful success along that line. Twenty-five years ago he left his native town in Georgia where he served his apprenticeship at less than

## The Colored Branch of the Y. M. C. A.

The common error in philanthropic efforts towards aiding the colored people has been in dealing with them en masse. The aim has been to "advance the race" and to our mind this is the cause of the many lamentable failures.

To advance the colored race as a race is a work of centuries. But there are individuals capable of great improvement, of making notable achievements, and it is to these individuals that the hand of opportunity should be extended and that the capable of grasping it will do so. That, as we understand it, is the object of the colored branch of the Y. M. C. A. It is to help those who wish to be helped and who will help themselves. There is no visionary scheme for "elevating the race," but there is afforded practical opportunity for self-help to those who will take advantage of it. On this basis, the branch ought to be of great service and of great assistance to a number of colored young men of the city.

With this idea of helping men who will help them-

selves Major Rosencranz has made a very handsome gift to the branch. He has put the members in a position where they can help themselves. He has given them a sum of money sufficient to put them on a plane where they can work out their own salvation and then he has made them a loan that will not make their part in the work easy, but it will make it possible. He has wisely refrained from smoothing their pathway, but he has removed the insurmountable obstacles.

The gift of Major Rosencranz is the most important that has been made in this city for the colored men, because it is devoted to a specific, practical, attainable end—the improvement of those colored men who are capable of improvement and are also willing and eager to do their part in the matter.

At first he was only able to take contracts for the labor while the owners furnished the material. During the last four years, Pharrow has been able by having sufficient cash and unencumbered property to make straight contracts, furnishing both material and labor. Probably his largest contract was the First Congregational Church of Atlanta, Ga., at a cost of \$35,000. In three years he constructed buildings in Birmingham and Atlanta at an aggregate cost of \$163,000.

I was attending the National Negro Baptist Convention at Birmingham a few years ago. Among other distinguished men introduced was Junius C. Groves, a native of Kentucky, now of Edwards, Kas. He was born a slave and is a full-born negro. He is called the "Negro Potato King," because in one year alone he produced upon his farm 721,500 bushels of white potatoes averaging 245 bushels to the acre.

"So far as reports show," says Dr. Booker T. Washington, "this was 125,500 bushels more than any other grower of the world had produced."

Besides his farming interest Groves has large holdings in mining and banking stocks. He is regarded, perhaps, as the most successful farmer in the country. He was born in Green County, Kentucky. In 1859, Groves ships potatoes to all parts of the United States and Mexico and Canada.

These are some illustrations of what the negro is doing for himself when properly encouraged by his white neighbors.

A. F. Owen.

## Co-operation of Our Race

WHEN the people of our race become a unit the nation will be affected by our force as a factor in its promotion, and be in a better position to protect our interests.

It is useless for some of our people to argue that the race will soon lose its identity with other races. It is contrary to science and borne out by history that the assertion is untrue.

The twentieth century brought new methods to the world's progress; the man who starts out now to accomplish an object alone is a failure to begin with.

The races that meet success today are the ones that can best unite their efforts to obtain the required results. The strength of a race depends upon the masses and not on the individual; individuals may lay plans, but the full results must come through the members of the race.

We must unite and form corporations and out of corporations form trusts which are combined into one great combination. A few years ago some of the leading business men of our race through hard experiences found that more could be accomplished by having one successful organization than could be accomplished through three or four petty organizations with not more than enough money in them all to purchase one building.

They realized that a building for sale requiring \$1500 as a first payment among 15 organizations with \$100 in the treasury of each, could do nothing toward purchasing the building; but the combination of those 15 petty organization with \$100 each would give them title to the property; this idea brought

about the merging of the Cambridge Realty Association in the Commercial Pioneer Institution in 1908 and the merging of the Advocate Publishing Company in the same institution on the 19th of last May. This makes the Commercial Pioneer Institution a corporation and a great Combination consisting of six departments with a manager over each department under the direction of the Directors and Trustees of the Institution.

THE RENTING DEPARTMENT AT 888  
MAIN STREET

From the listing of a basement room on our renting list in 1900, our renting department has grown to over 200 tenement houses for renting and collecting. The main book-keeper is kept busy all the time gathering rents and rendering statements to the owners; two men are employed regular to look after repairs and the care of idle tenements.

Aside from the care of our own property we manage other peoples' property at a commission of five per cent on collections. In our management we have tried to avoid discrimination; if we desire the opposite race to cease being prejudiced along these lines, we must not do the thing we are asking them not to do, we do not make it a custom to turn out white tenants and put colored tenants in, when we come in possession of property, and we advise other agents that this is not the best policy. If people are respectable and pay their rent there should not be any distinction in their quality as there is none in the dollar, for one man's dollar in the hands of a merchant is worth just as much as another.

During the last four or five years we have succeeded in procuring houses for our people where a colored person has never lived before and that same property can not be purchased today for any less than it

could when they moved in. In place of the property in that neighborhood depreciating in value, it has so improved, that one of the places we speak of, that could have been purchased last year for \$3,000 by paying \$500 down, could not be purchased last month for \$3200, with a first payment of \$1000. It is true that a certain class of people, colored and white depreciate property. This class of people we try to avoid renting to, as they are undesirable in every respect.

## BUYING AND SELLING DEPARTMENT

Aside from the purchasing of property for the institution there is a selling department for the disposal of property for other people. At present, we have over a million of dollars worth of property on our list for sale, suitable for residence or business. Many of our members with a little capital have purchased homes and business property through this department and are doing well, not one has lost property purchased through this institution, because of the fact that their interest was safely guarded in the selection of the locality, in the terms of the investment and in the management of the property. In order that you may be able to make a personal investigation for yourself we refer you to a few of our patrons who purchased from us and have made a success with their property, Mrs. Max, 46 Market st; Mr. Curran, 146 Pleasant st, Mr. Henderson, 20-22 Decatur st, and Mr. Hopkins, 15 Essex st. The few names we have given above we think is sufficient to satisfy an inquirer.

## TRUST DEPARTMENT

This department takes the place of our co-operative banking plan only on a larger scale. It is the means of assisting our members in getting money to purchase real estate, it also makes a specialty of purchasing equities.

The difference between this department and the regular selling department is, that it makes a specialty of real estate and is unlimited as to territory or capital and any person may join after they have once become a member of the institution and have paid for five shares of stock. This department also makes a specialty of constructing buildings and improving property. While property in the corporation is purchased principally for its own use,



property may be purchased through the trust for all purposes, it may be purchased and held for the benefit of the members of the trust, or put out on mortgages, for interest. This department takes up such a wide scope in real estate, we will not attempt to explain it all here.

#### PRINTING AND PUBLISHING DEPARTMENT

In this department, we do all kinds of Job-Printing, and publish a weekly newspaper at 844 Main Street, Cambridge. In this department, numbers of our colored boys and girls earn a livelihood. Job-Printing is turned out in first-class workmanship and at as short notice as any printing house in the city. Numbers of boys and girls have entered as apprentices since our plant has been in operation. We have a foreman who has the supervision over the help and a manager who has charge of the whole department. Under this same department we have an editorial department in charge of the editor who is responsible for all articles published in the paper. He also has charge of the paper.

The next under this department is the circulating manager who manages and has charge of the mailing and general circulation of the paper.

The last in this departments is the Advertising Department. At present we are occupying small quarters, having to use one or two of the offices at the headquarters, 888 Main st. The great feature of this department is the publication of the "Advocate."

Those who have read the paper can not but agree with me that it is a conservative one, it has been our endeavor to make it an organ to deal with policies and not with individuals: it is the first paper published in New England, set up, by our own boys and girls, and printed on a large cylinder press owned by our race.

#### THE INDUSTRIAL DEPARTMENT

The Industrial Department at 890 Main st., is conducted by the women of the institution. At present five departments are being operated under this head. The Cafe and ice cream parlors for the accommodation of the public, the bakery, the employment bureau, and the training school. Beginning this week the manager will open lecture rooms for men and

women. Provisions for the accommodation of girls going to and from the city are being made as rapidly as possible. After our annual meeting the officers anticipate fitting up the other side of the building for the training and accommodation of men. This will take the place of a Young Men and Women's Christian Association.

#### SAVINGS DEPARTMENT

This Department will constitute our banking department and complete the plans of our institution: when this department is formed, persons who do not desire to invest their money in stock, may make daily deposits and draw their money by check just as they are doing in other banks and Trust Companies. Some might say why is it necessary to have a bank when there are so many departments? The answer to this is: that it is not reasonable that everybody should want to invest all the money they have in stock, they must have some to live on, while the other is out earning dividends. It is easier to deposit your money each morning or evening, and pay your bills by check. Another advantage is, it will get our people in the habit of saving their pennies and not waiting all of their lives for the dollar which they can never spare to put away.

The man who deposits a few pennies now and then, will have fifteen or twenty dollars before he knows it. By adding this department, we feel that we have succeeded in establishing a thoroughly equipped Commercial Institution for our people in the East. We realize that real success of our race in business, in State or Church will not be attained until we can make such prestige in the community, that other races will feel that they must either co-operate with us in our undertakings or work at odds against a combined force.

#### THE SYSTEM

A manager is employed in each department. They are responsible for all money taken in through their department during the week, and for the payment of the bills. The regular meeting of the directors is every Monday evening, and each manager is required to report for the week and turn over all money to the treasurer who is under bond to the Institution for all money received by him.

The regular meeting of the Trust is on the first of each month, under the directions of the trustees and all

business, for the month is approved. Our annual meeting is on the second Wednesday evening in January of each year.

#### BENEFITS

A member of this institution is benefitted in four ways, he has the preference of a position in the institution when there is an opening, the preference of any situation that comes in through the employment bureau, they have the preference of obtaining money for investments when there is money on hand to loan, and when dividends are declared each member receives dividends on his money.

In the past we have paid 5 and 6 per cent dividends, but if business continues to grow in the future as it has in the past, ten or fifteen per cent will be a small amount for us to pay.

An institution like this, patronized by all nationalities in a state like Massachusetts that offers every opportunity to the black man, means a step to success for the entire race. When these obstacles are overcome our conditions will undergo a change and prejudice on account of color, will sink in the seas of forgetfulness, and in the place of opposition, other races will seek our co-operation.

#### HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER

The stock is sold for \$5.00 per share in blocks of 5 shares; \$5.00 down and \$1 a week. A full explanation at the regular stock rally, Monday evening, Nov. 29, at 8 p.m. 890 Main St., Lafayette Sq., Cambridge.

Those who have succeeded should help others to succeed, in this way we form an endless claim that will bring about union in Church, State and in business.



# WHAT THE NEGRO IS DOING AGRICULTURALLY AND INDUSTRIALLY

## Remarkable Demonstration of Progress as Shown at the Negroes' Fair of Macon County, Alabama.

*Mobile 11-21-09*

(For The Register, by Rev. A. F. Owens.)

To the Editor of The Register:

I have been urged by influential friends to write a series of articles on "What the Negro Is Doing for Himself" and offer it to the readers of your paper. The object to be sought is to furnish some information to leading white men of the South on this vital question and encourage to greater diligence men and women of my own race who are doing something for themselves. I pledge myself to the readers of your journal to state facts and not fancy or feelings.

I have been in public life as a teacher and preacher more than thirty years. I have kept myself in touch with leading men of both races of the South. I am an Alabamian by birth and rearing and have lived in Mobile since 1877. I was born a slave and I am proud of the history of my race in this country. I sincerely believe that some of the best friends of the negro are among the first-class white people of the South.

The vital question that concerns both races is "What is the negro doing for himself?" What is he doing along the lines of self-improvement, home building, education, good citizenship? What is he doing for his own social and moral elevation? In short, is the negro growing in sympathy with American civilization and becoming an integral part of the growth of our great country? Is the negro learning the lessons of self-reliance, self-support and self-respect?

In this series of contributions to your great exponent of public sentiment, I shall take it for granted that you are in sympathy with the great mass of my people who are struggling along the lines indicated above.

### The Macon County Fair.

Last week I visited the Macon County Fair for colored farmers held in the limits of South Greenwood, a settlement of colored people about three miles west of the enterprising little town of Tuskegee, Alabama, and about two miles from Tuskegee Institute. At this fair the farmers of Macon county exhibited samples of their products consisting of corn, cotton, hay, oats, rice, potatoes, sugar cane, hams, syrup, honey, peanuts, pumpkins, watermelons, beets, cabbages, collards, onions, turnips, beans, pepper, rape, peavine hay, fodder, poultry, hogs, sheep, goats, cows, calves, colts, thoroughbred horses, mules, milk in bottles, butter, canned berries, canned peas, canned peaches, pressed pears, etc., etc.

In the culinary division were seen candy, jellies, bread, coconut pies, potato pies, tea cakes, chocolate cakes, white cakes, pound cakes, cooked

ken, etc. The floral division were beautiful made from rare cut flowers. Department of handicraft was a

remarkable display of drawn work, embroidery work, machine work, hand sewing, rag dolls, sofa pillows, aprons, hats, sunbonnets, baby hats, pin-cushions, lace and stitching, drawing work, embroidery in linens, and embroidery in silk floss. Hand baskets, axe handles, hinges, singletrees, door mats were also in evidence. These things were displayed in competition, carefully inspected by competent judges, and received awards of blue, red or white ribbons indicating first, second or third prizes.

In the afternoon of the last day, Saturday, the manager awarded prizes to the competitors in cash ranging from 10 cents to \$5. Honorable mention was made of the exhibits which received no prizes. One farmer, J. I. McMullen, of Notasulga, had on exhibition a bale of cotton for which he was offered \$75, the bale weighing over 500 pounds.

Among the individual exhibits, Mrs. Clinton J. Calloway received the first prize for the finest display of barred Plymouth Rock chickens. This exhibit showed the difference between the barred Plymouth Rock and the scrub hen of the same age. It received favorable comments by all who saw it and Mrs. Calloway was complimented by the judges and by Mr. C. W. Hare, a leading white lawyer of Tuskegee, who was one of the most enthusiastic white visitors to the fair.

Mrs. Sarah Cooper received the first prize for a display of fine sweet potatoes, some of which weighed five pounds. The exhibits were placed in sections under a spacious covered shed 100 feet square with a platform extending across the northern end. In the open court of this square was an exhibit of farming implements by one of the merchants of Tuskegee. Another merchant had a similar exhibit in charge of a colored man near the entrance of the enclosure.

Outside the enclosure of the fair grounds proper was the race track encircling a quarter of a mile. Within this circle were the live stock and a large tent under which was the baby show. Here sat mothers with fine, bright-eyed babies of the same age, many of them twins. These babies were placed in competition for size, weight and beauty.

Near the tent was a "flying horse" outfit, the manager of which coined many dollars. Indeed, the exhibition had every feature of a state fair, with the exception of the fakir shows. There were horse races, mule races, foot races, etc. Much amusement was furnished by a unique car on six block wheels mounted by upright boards and securely covered with common planks, the crude imitation drawn by six oxen. It bore the pretentious title of the "Hardaway Street Car." It was invented or created by some precocious farm boys in the Hardaway settlement.

This car bearing exhibits was drawn a distance of twenty miles from the fair grounds. The driver seated on top made amusing trips around the race track and passengers got on and alighted at imaginary stations. This was one of the features of the fair.

In the afternoon of the last day a spelling match was held on the platform by boys and girls representing nineteen of the fifty-five schools in the county. A prize of five dollars for this match was donated by Mr. C. W. Hare.

The fair is called the Annual Macon County Farmers' Institute Fair, and grew out of the monthly farmers' institute meetings which have been held several years in the agricultural building on the Tuskegee Institute grounds. At these monthly institute meetings farmers bring their garden and farm products, get new ideas on farming and put them into practice at their homes. Thus once a year they have been led to make a display of their agricultural exhibits on a larger scale.

Notwithstanding the hard year for farmers in this section of the country, the fair was a decided and most encouraging success. The judges state that the exhibits were of a very high standard. This was the unanimous opinion also of the white visitors from Auburn, Tuskegee and other towns who delivered inspiring addresses to large crowds from the platform.

The Tuskegee Institute brass band, under Professor N. Clark Smith, furnished music for the occasion and the welcome address was delivered by the president of the fair, C. W. Green. The formal address to the farmers was delivered by Lawyer Hare, who is one of the best friends the colored farmers of Macon county boast of. Professor J. W. Duncan, white, of Auburn, Ala., with Mr. O. W. Ferguson were the judges. They paid a high compliment to the farmers and congratulated them on their fine exhibits.

The success of the fair is due largely to the efforts of Mr. George R. Bridgeforth, chairman of the executive committee, Mr. C. W. Green, president, Mr. Clinton J. Calloway, and Professor J. H. Palmer, secretary. During the two days of the fair more than three thousand persons passed through the gates. The order was perfect. Not a policeman was seen on the grounds, nor was any needed.

One of the most direct and important influences for improvement in Macon county was the introduction three years ago of the farmers' cooperative demonstrative work in connection with a patent agricultural wagon. This work is carried on by the agricultural department at Washington, with the aid of the general education board, under the direction of Dr. S. A. Knapp, of Washington, D. C. Dr. Knapp has under his direction a number of agents whose duty it is to visit the different sections of the county and oversee the work going on. This method of carrying instruction directly to the man on the soil has done the people throughout this and adjacent counties a vast amount of good. T. M. Campbell, the local agent doing this work, has covered Macon county very thoroughly during the past three years and he has touched the edges of Tallapoosa, Montgomery and Lee counties. He has made since April 1 to November 1 forty-five public field "demonstrations." Approximately three thousand farmers have been touched and influenced.

The negro farmer is gradually waking up to the fact that he cannot make cotton at a profit where all of his supplies have to be bought to produce it, and that he cannot raise meat at a profit on imported corn. The demonstration work is now organized in most every community in this county, under what is known as the Farmers' School of Instruction and all "demonstrators" and "co-operators" are members. Meetings are held once a month in order to plant something in the minds of the people that will last from

one month to the other. The Jesup wagon is driven to all of the meeting places, carrying as far as possible samples of things to be discussed. For instance, when the subject chances to be "how to keep a good garden twelve months" the wagon is fitted up with a portable garden and driven to the meeting place and there concrete illustrations are given.

Since the spring of 1907 the demonstration work has spread very rapidly. As soon as its object was found out, people from all parts are clamoring for instruction. Public schools, institutions and farmers all alike are anxious to have the United States department establish the work in their communities. The work is now being carried on for negroes in Macon county, Ala., Wilcox county, Ala., Lee county, Ala., and Bolivar county, Miss., with striking results.

The visitors to the fair were enthusiastic, the weather was ideal and the management very satisfactory to all concerned. The exhibits showed what the negro farmer is doing for himself in Macon county.

A. F. Owens.

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Nov. 19, 1909

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